***Statement-II***

*Location-wise list of NGOs granted assistance in Assam under UNDP-GEF/CCF Small Grants Programme*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of the NGOs | Amount Sanctioned | Released Amount 2001-2002 | 2002-2003 | Physical Progress |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nabjagran Sanstha, Barpeta | 3.30 | 1.32 | 1.32 | Project on going |
| 2. | Assam Science Society, Latasil | 5.01 | 2.00 | 2.00 | Project on going |
| 3. | Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha, Dighalipukhri. | 3.58 | 1.43 | 1.43 | Project on going |
| 4. | Centre for All Round Development, Darrang | 4.00 | 1.60 | 1.60 | Project on going |
| 5. | Nature's Beckon, Dubhuri | 4.20 | — | 1.68 | Project on going |
| | TOTAL | 20.08 | 6.35 | 8.03 | |

**Violation of Delhi Tree Preservation Act, 1995**

394. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi's Department of Forests and Wildlife Kas sanctioned permission for felling or pruning of 45,219 tress over the past five years and the saplings supposed to be planted *in lieu* of each tree cut have either died without a trace or are yet to grow into full fledged greenery;

(b) if so, who is responsible for violation of provision of Delhi Tree Preservation Act, 1995, stipulating 10 saplings to be planted *in lieu* of each tree cut or pruned; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed for this lapse?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Department of Forests and Wildlife, Government of N.C.T of Delhi has granted permission for felling of 41,925 trees over

the past five years under the provisions of the Delhi Preservation of Tree Act, 1994. The saplings planted against the trees cut are yet to grow into full fledged trees as saplings take about 5 years to establish. As per the Act, the applicant who is granted permission, is required to plant such numbers and kind of trees as directed by the Tree Officer.

(c) Does not arise.

**Destruction of forest areas for developmental projects**

395. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

• (a) whether it is a fact that large forest areas had been destroyed during the last twenty years for various developmental projects like dams, mining operations and setting up of industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise and project-wise;

. (c) whether loss of forest areas as a result of the developmental projects has been compensated by matching schemes of afforestation and development of National Parks/Sanctuaries during the same period and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken for the rehabilitation of the people living in the forest areas displaced as result of the developmental projects in the forest areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 regulates the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. Prior to enactment of this Act in 1980, about 45 lakh hectare of forest land was diverted in 30 years between 1950-1980. This unabated diversion of forest land has been effectively checked by the enactment of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The annual rate of diversion has come down to as low as 0.38 lakh hectare per annum. Proposal for diversion of forest land are considered on its merit and the need to balance the conservation effect with the developmental need of the country. Since 1980 *i.e.* during last 23 years, about 8.72 lakh hectare of forest land has been diverted for non-forestry purposes. The State-wise and Project category-wise details at Statement-I and Statement-II respectively *(See* below).